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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/665,258	09/22/2003	Thomas Goering	11884-400301	7117
23838	7590	07/03/2007	EXAMINER	
KENYON & KENYON LLP			PITARO, RYAN F	
1500 K STREET N.W.				
SUITE 700			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
WASHINGTON, DC 20005			2174	
MAIL DATE		DELIVERY MODE		
07/03/2007		PAPER		

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	<b>Application No.</b>	<b>Applicant(s)</b>
	10/665,258	GOERING, THOMAS
	<b>Examiner</b> Ryan F. Pitaro	<b>Art Unit</b> 2174

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --  
**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

#### Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 04 April 2007.
- 2a) This action is **FINAL**.                    2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

#### Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1-13 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 1-13 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

#### Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.  
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

#### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) All    b) Some \* c) None of:
  1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

#### Attachment(s)

- 1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)  
 Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
- 4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
 Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
- 5) Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) Other: \_\_\_\_\_

## DETAILED ACTION

### ***Response to Amendment***

1. This action is in response to the Amendment filed 4/4/2007. In the Amendment Claims 1-13 were amended. This action is Final.

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(a) the invention was known or used by others in this country, or patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country, before the invention thereof by the applicant for a patent.

1. Claims 1-8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(a) as being anticipated by Ries et al ("Ries", US 2004/0217985).
2. As per independent claim 1, Ries teaches a computer system for customizing form elements in a form building application (page 81, paragraph [1858]), comprising:  
a form builder component configured to receive an identification of a user of the form building application, the form building application providing a graphical user

interface manipulating of a set of form elements under development ([0057]-[0058], Figure 2), and to enable access to a subset of the form elements according to authorization rules [0073] restrict access); and an access manager component configured to determine the authorization rules associated with the user's authorization to develop the set of form elements ([0073], advanced editing functions).

Independent claim 5 is similar in scope to independent claim 1 and is therefore rejected under similar rationale.

3. As per claim 2, Ries teaches the system of claim 1, wherein the identification of the user is based on login information ([0073] username password).

Claim 6 is similar in scope to claim 2 and is therefore rejected under similar rationale.

4. As per claim 3, Ries teaches the system of claim 1, wherein the authorization rules are determined via a lookup table associating the user identification with the authorization rules for the user ([0060] login brain).

Claim 7 is similar in scope to claim 3 and is therefore rejected under similar rationale.

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5. As per claim 4, Ries teaches the system of claim 3, wherein the authorization rules include settings that identify the subset of the form elements, which are viewable and/or changeable ([0073] access to only certain hooks).

Claim 8 is similar in scope to claim 4 and is therefore rejected under similar rationale.

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

6. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

7. Claims 9-13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Menninger ("Menninger", US # 2003/0048301) in view of Ries et al ("Ries", US 2004/0217985).

8. As per independent claim 9, Menninger teaches a computer-implemented method for customizing an electronic form (page 81, paragraph [1858]), comprising: responsive to a command by a user to change an element of the form (page 81, paragraph [1858]), rejecting the command unless the access rights associated with the user's identifier permit the user to change the form element (page 61, Table 21, *deny access to applications*). However Menninger does not teach expressly the method comprising: the permission list identifying access rights for a plurality of form elements

that are under development contained in the form; and comparing an identifier associated with the user to those the access rights for the form element to be changed. Ries teaches a method editing a webpage comprising: the permission list identifying access rights for a plurality of form elements under development contained in the form ([0060], login brain); and comparing an identifier associated with the user to those the access rights for the form element to be changed ([0072]-[0073], access rights).

Menninger and Ries are analogous art because they are in the same field of endeavor, namely managing access rights within graphical user interfaces. At the time of the invention it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to incorporate the functions as taught by Ries into Menninger's method for editing information in order to provide a more fine-grained access control.

9. As per claim 10, the modified Menninger, teaches the method of claim 9, wherein the command by the user to change the form element includes selecting in a form building application a node representing the form element (Ries, [0072]).

10. As per claim 11, the modified Menninger, teaches the method of claim 9, wherein the access rights are defined for form elements representing a form's corporate identity (Menninger, page 29, paragraph [0624] – page 30 Table 3).

11. As per claim 12, the modified Menninger, teaches the method of claim 9, wherein the access rights are defined for form elements representing a form's interface to an application program (Menninger, page 61, Table 21, *deny access to applications*).

12. As per claim 13, the modified Menninger, teaches the method of claim 9, wherein the access rights are defined based on at least one of user id (Ries, [0076]), job title (Menninger, fig. 63), department code and position in the corporate hierarchy (Menninger, page 44, paragraphs [0991] – [0997].

***Response to Arguments***

Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-13 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

***Conclusion***

Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of

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the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

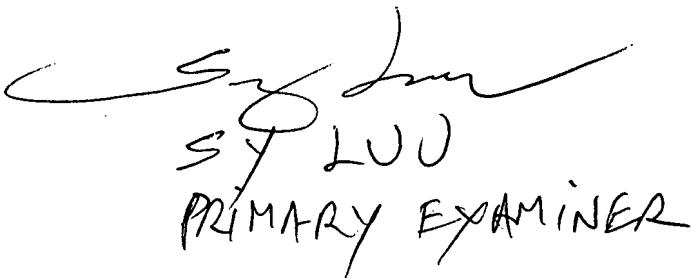
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Ryan F. Pitaro whose telephone number is 571-272-4071. The examiner can normally be reached on 7:00am - 4:30pm Mondays through Fridays.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kristine Kincaid can be reached on 571-272-4063. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Ryan Pitaro  
Patent Examiner  
Art Unit 2174

RFP



The image shows a handwritten signature in black ink. The signature appears to read "Ryan Pitaro" above "ST LUU" and "PRIMARY EXAMINER" below it. The handwriting is cursive and somewhat stylized.